Demands of Kashmiri Hindus

630. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to news report which appeared in Pioneer of the 11th June, 1992 that Kashmiri Hindus are demanding Union Territory status for their homeland in the area northeast of the Jhelum river in Kashmir valley; and

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the demand in proper perspective with a view to giving a home-land and peace to this uprooted ethnic minority in the valley?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) The Government has seen the press report in question.

(b) The Government does not favour division of the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Relief to the Kashmiri migrants to take care of their basic needs is, however, being provided.

Shortage of wood for cremation grounds in Delhi

631. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL:
SHRI MOHINDER SINGH LATHER:
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the civic authorities in Delhi are finding it difficult to supply wood for cremation grounds in Delhi, as reported in the Indian Express dated the 21st June, 1992;

(b) whether the MCD have not provided sufficient electric crematoria to meet the situation;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and by when all the crematoria would be turned electrically operated; and

(d) what other measures Government propose to take in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Municipal Corporation of Delhi has provided an electric crematorium at Ring Road near Old Yamuna Bridge. Another Crematorium at Panjabi Bahg cremation ground is about to be completed. An electric crematorium is planned at Green Park. The construction of additional crematoria depends upon the availaiblity of funds, acceptance by the people and demand from the people of the area. MCD has also reported that electric crematoria are not so popular among people as conventional cremation grounds because of religious susceptibilities.

Militant outfits in Kashmir

632. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the militant out-fits perpetrating terrorism in Kashmir;

(b) whether any of them, especially the pro-independence group, have offered to lay-down arms and to come out for talk and isolate the pro-pak elements; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a)

and (b) According to available information, 119 terrorist out-fits have been reported in the State. In Jammu & Kashmir, though over 900 terrorists have surrendered by the end of June this year, no major terrorist out-fit has openly conveyed its willingness to surrender arms and to come forward for talks within the framework of the Constitution of India.

(c) Does not arise.

Attack on the Union Minister for Communication

633. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Kashmir militants' out-fit has owned the responsibility of attacking the Union Minister for communications in the first week of May, 1992;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (c) Militant out-fit "Al-Jehad" in a press statement published in Urdu Dailies "Aftab" and "Al-Safa" dated 6th May, 1992 has claimed the responsibility for the attack on the convoy of the Union Minister for Communications on 5th May, 1992.

The carcade of Minister of State for Communications, while he was returning from the Lal Bazar after offering his condolences to and sharing grief with the bereaved families of the victims of an earlier house collapse in down town area of Srinagar around 2.00 PM on 5th May, 1992, came under sustained armed attack by terrorists. The security force personnel returned the five. Four persons were killed in the cross-fire.

The Government deplores such acts of mindless violence and will continue to take strong action against terrorism and infiltration from across the border.

Naxalite violence

634. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Naxalites have recently killed many policemen in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) what action Government have taken so far to contain the Naxalite violence in the country particularly in Madhya Pradesh;

(d) whether Government have given any central assistance to rehabilitate the Naxalite ejected people in the State; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): (a) to (e) As per available reports 34 police personnel were killed in the country during the current year upto 7.7.1992 by the Naxalities, which included 18 policemen who lost their lives in a land-mine blast in Madhya Pradesh on 4.6.1992. 'Public Order' being a state subject it is for the state governments concerned to devise various methods and take concrete steps to improve law and order situation. Central Government is providing all possible assistance to the state governments in this regard.

Stopping of flow of water from Bhakra to Rajasthan

635. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state: